

**APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLING A SCREEN  
POINTER**

**Abstract**

5           An apparatus for controlling a position of a screen pointer for an  
electronic device having a display screen includes a touchpad including a touch-  
sensitive surface on which a pointing object may be placed. The touchpad is  
configured to generate position signals indicative of positions of the pointing  
object on the touch-sensitive surface. The apparatus includes a controller for  
10   generating a first set of movement data based on the position signals. The first  
set of movement data is indicative of motion of the pointing object across the  
touch-sensitive surface. The controller is configured to generate a second set of  
movement data when the pointing object is removed from the touch-sensitive  
surface, thereby leaving the touch-sensitive surface free from contact by a  
15   pointing object. The second set of movement data is indicative of motion of the  
pointing object across the touch-sensitive surface prior to removal of the  
pointing object.